

REMARKS

The present invention provides for, *inter alia*, a device capable of reducing the moisture content and/or ensuring a defined moisture content in a closed gas space surrounding said device, to a process producing such a device and to the use of a device.

The indication by the Examiner that claims 56, 57 and 60 would be allowable if rewrittied to overcome the rejection under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, and the objections to claims 58, 62 to 68, 72 to 74, 76 to 79 and 81 for depending upon a rejected claims, but otherwise allowable, is greatly appreciated. In order to advance prosecution Applicants have amended claim 55 to recites the elements recited in claim 56 and 57; Applicants are doing this without prejudice or the intention of creating estoppel and reserve the right to file a continuation application directed to the cancelled embodiments.

Support for claim 84 is found on page 12 of the specification. Applicants urge that this description adequately describes the claimed subject matter.

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) Applicants petition the Director to extend the time period to file a response by two (2) months. A USPTO credit card form for \$420.00 is enclosed to cover the cost of this fee. Also enclosed is a USPTO credit card form for \$290.00 for the cost of 1 multiple dependent claim. It is believed that no further fee is due. If, however, a further fee is required, please charge such fee to Deposit Account 50-0320.

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the drawings under 37 C.F.R. §1.83(a). More specifically, the Examiner asserted that claim 55 or 71 includes four features that must be shown in the drawing(s) or canceled from the claim(s). It is respectfully submitted that that such features are not recited in any of the claims depending therefrom. For example, neither claim 55 nor 70 recited or presently recites a regenerable desiccant “in nonactive form by activation into

an active state” or converting “by activation into an active state” as alleged in the rejection.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the drawing objection is respectfully requested.

In view of the cancellation of claims 68 to 70 and 84 the rejection of claims 68 to 70 and 84 to 86 under 35 USC §112, first paragraph is moot.

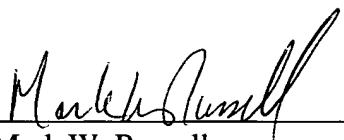
Claims 56 and 57 stand rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph. As it is clear that the support layer is water-vapor-permeable, it is urged that this rejection is now moot and should be withdrawn.

In view of the amendments to the claim, it is urged that the rejections pursuant to 35 USC §102(e) and 103(a) are moot and should be withdrawn.

As it is believed that this application is in condition for allowance, an early notice is earnestly solicited. If, however, there remains an issue outstanding, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned for its prompt resolution.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP
Attorneys for Applicants

By: 

Mark W. Russell
Reg. No. 37,514
(212) 588-0800 tel.
(212) 588-0500 fax